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If you believe you are eligible to vote and encounter difficulty registering, please contact the Elections section of the Wyoming Secretary of State:

Elections Officer  
State Capitol Building  
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0020  
(307) 777-5333 (voice)  
(307) 777-7640 (fax)

If the Wyoming Secretary of State is unable to help you, or to report a problem, contact:

U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Voting Section, Rm. 7254 - NWB  
Washington, D.C. 20530  
(202) 307-2767 (voice)  
(800) 253-3931 (toll-free)  
(202) 307-3961 (fax)  
[www.usdoj.gov/crt](http://www.usdoj.gov/crt)

*This pamphlet is provided for informational purposes only, as an aid to further inquiry. The laws in many states are revised frequently, and may have changed since this pamphlet was issued. It is your responsibility to determine whether you are lawfully eligible to vote, and criminal penalties can result from voting when ineligible or making false statements on a registration form.*

Issued December, 2000

U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division



# Restoring Your Right to Vote



WYOMING

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The right to vote is an important civil right in a democracy as well as a civic responsibility, and yet many persons who have been convicted of a crime do not know whether they are eligible to vote. For both federal and state elections, the right to vote is controlled by the law of the state in which you live. Some states restrict the right to vote for persons who have been convicted of a crime. This pamphlet is intended to help you determine whether you are eligible to vote in the state in which you live, and if so, what steps you must take to be permitted to vote.

### **What law governs whether my felony conviction limits my right to vote?**

The impact of a criminal conviction on the right to vote varies widely from state to state. Whether you can vote after being convicted of a crime is determined by the state in which you live, not the state in which you were convicted.

### **Can I vote while I'm incarcerated in Wyoming?**

If you are a resident of Wyoming, you may not vote if you have been convicted of a felony. If you are a resident of another state who is temporarily incarcerated in Wyoming, you may be able to vote by absentee ballot in your home state. You need to consult the law of your home state regarding both criminal convictions and absentee ballots to see if this is a possibility.

### **I have been released from incarceration. How do I restore my right to vote?**

In Wyoming, the right to vote may be regained either by a pardon or by restoration of civil rights. The Governor has the power both to pardon and to restore rights. The Governor may issue certificates of restoration of rights upon a person's completion of probation or expiration

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of the term of the sentence. You must submit a written application to the Governor in order to request a certificate restoring your right to vote. The Governor's address is:

Governor of Wyoming  
Wyoming State Capitol  
Cheyenne, WY 82002  
(307) 777-7434

### **What if my conviction was for a federal crime?**

The same procedure applies whether you were convicted of a state crime or a federal crime. The Governor of Wyoming cannot grant you a pardon on behalf of the federal government, but he can still restore your voting rights in Wyoming.

### **What if I was convicted in another state?**

The same procedure applies whether you were convicted in Wyoming or in another state. The Governor of Wyoming cannot grant you a pardon on behalf of another state, but he can still restore your voting rights in Wyoming.

### **How do I obtain a pardon?**

If you were convicted in Wyoming state court, you can apply to the Governor of Wyoming to seek a pardon.

If you were convicted in another state, you should contact the Governor's office of that state to determine what procedures apply. If you were convicted of a federal crime, you may contact:

Office of Pardon Attorney  
United States Department of Justice  
500 First Street, N.W., 4th floor  
Washington, D.C. 20530

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### **What happens if I move to another state?**

If you move to another state, your right to vote will be controlled by the laws of that state.

### **What are Wyoming's other voter registration requirements?**

To register to vote in Wyoming, you must:

- be a citizen of the United States
- be a resident of the State of Wyoming
- be at least 18 years of age on election day
- not be adjudicated mentally incompetent

### **When do I need to register to vote?**

If you register by mail, your registration must be completed 30 days prior to the election in order to vote in that election. Wyoming also conducts same-day registration at the polls. Absentee voters may register and cast their ballots simultaneously at their county clerk's office at any time prior to the election.

### **Where do I go to register?**

Voters in Wyoming may register at their county clerk's office or at their polling site on election day. The county clerk may also conduct voter registration drives at various local sites before elections. More information about registration drives in your area may be obtained by contacting your local county clerk.